

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-2, 5, 7-8, 22-25, 32-34 (renumbered 1-12) allowed.
2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Regarding Claim 1, the prior art of record fails to disclose, suggest, or teach, the following limitation “subsequent to programming the recording apparatus to record the first program at the first broadcast time, continuing to store, at the system, the information specifying that the user has selected the second program to be recorded, at the broadcast time and the second broadcast time respectively, which are at least partially coinciding with the first broadcast time, without requiring a user to resolve the conflict, wherein the continued storage preserves the possibility of automatically scheduling the recording of the second program during at least a portion of the second broadcast time in response to a subsequent event and in response to the subsequent event, wherein the subsequent event comprises at least one of detecting that a new tuner has been added to the recording apparatus or detecting that at least one of a start or stop time for at least one of the first program or second program has changed from the first broadcast time or second broadcast time respectively, automatically programming the recording apparatus to schedule recording of the second program subsequent to programming the apparatus to schedule recording of the first program and using the stored information specifying that the user has selected to second program to be recorded without requiring the user to reselect the second program to be recorded, and storing, at the system, a recording list specifying programs specified by

the particular user for recording the recording list including recording information for both the first program and the second program to be recorded, despite the existence of the conflict at the time the user input selecting the second program is received.”

In regard to Claim 34, the prior art of record fails to disclose, teach, or suggest the following limitations as recited in Claim 34: “the system automatically selecting the instance of the first program for recording and using the priority list to program the recording apparatus to schedule recording of the instance of the first program at the first broadcast time, wherein automatically selecting the instance of the first program and programming the recording apparatus includes applying a default rule set including at least the following rules for a single tuner: program a most senior, non-optional program for recording, program a junior program for recording when it does not conflict with senior programs program a junior program for recording when it only conflicts with one or more senior, optional programs program an optional program for recording when it does not conflict with any other program; program an optional program for recording when it only conflicts with one or more junior, optional programs; not program a junior program for recording that conflicts with one or more senior programs which have been programmed for recording; and program a junior program for recording that conflicts with one or more senior programs when all of the conflicting senior programs are not programmed for recording updating the EPG to reflect which programs and instance of programs are scheduled for recording, wherein the EPG includes different visual identifiers for each of: repeated programs selected for recording and scheduled for recording; non-repeated programs selected for recording and scheduled for recording;

Art Unit: 2621

programs selected for recording and not scheduled for recording; programs selected for optional recording; and programs not selected for recording; subsequent to programming the recording apparatus to record the instance of the first program at the first broadcast time, continuing to store, at the system, the priority list specifying that the user has selected the second program to have its instance recorded at the second broadcast time which is at least partially coinciding with the first broadcast time, without requiring a user to resolve the conflict, wherein the continued storage preserves the possibility of automatically scheduling the recording of the instance of the second program; and after programming the recording apparatus to record the instance of the first program, detecting that a new tuner has been added to the recording apparatus, and thereafter automatically programming the recording apparatus to schedule recording of the second program using the stored recording information specifying that the user has selected the second program to be recorded without requiring the user to reselect the second program to be recorded, such that instance of the first program is recorded at the first broadcast time and the instance of the second instance is recorded at the second broadcast time.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to whose telephone number is (571)272-7384. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on 571-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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